



# Quarterly Census of RI Employment and Wages

## Fourth Quarter Comparison 2002-2003



Rhode Island total employment averaged 480,880 in the fourth quarter of 2003, an increase of 5,912 (+1.2%) jobs, when compared to the fourth quarter of 2002. Private sector employment added 5,662 positions, while the Government sector increased by 250 jobs. The Construction (+2,497) sector reported the largest employment gains, followed by Accommodation & Food Services (+1,831). Manufacturing (-3,551) and Mining (-27) were the only two sectors to report employment declines.

Health Care & Social Assistance (70,934) represents the largest sector of the State's employment, accounting for 17.1 percent of private employment. Health Care & Social Assistance has been the leading employment sector for eight consecutive quarters, since the conversion of the classification systems. The Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system was converted to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in 2002. Health Care & Social Assistance represents its own sector under NAICS, where in the SIC system, it was among 15 sub-sectors in the Services sector.

The Construction sector (+2,497), led by Specialty Trade Contractors (+1,854), added the most jobs between fourth quarter 2002 and fourth quarter 2003. Accommodation & Food Services (1,831) added the second most jobs, followed by Health Care & Social Assistance (+1,758), Management of Companies & Enterprise (+1,298), the largest gainer on a percentage basis (+20.1%), and Professional & Technical Services (+853).

Manufacturing lost 3,551 positions during this period, with large declines reported in the Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-1,067) and Fabricated Metal Product (-1,061) sub-sectors. Mining (-27) was the only other sector to report a job decline.

Over \$4.6 billion in total wages was paid in the fourth quarter 2003, an increase of \$293 million (+6.8%) from the total wages paid in the fourth quarter of 2002. Private employment accounted for 87 percent (\$255 million) of the wage increase, while Government wages increased by \$38 million. The average weekly wage in the private sector is \$715 per week, an increase of \$39 (+5.8%) from the \$676 earned during the same period of last year.

Through fourth quarter bonuses, Management of Companies & Enterprise (\$1,536) led the way in average weekly wage, experiencing a \$366 (+31.2%) weekly increase. Utilities (\$1,329), Professional & Technical Services (\$1,083), Information (\$1,078) and Finance & Insurance (\$1,074) round out the top five sectors in average weekly wage. The Mining sector was the only sector to report a loss in wages between fourth quarter 2002 and fourth quarter 2003. The average weekly wage in Mining declined from \$971 per week to \$946 per week during this period.

### Fourth Quarter 2003

	No. of Units	October	November	December	Average Employment	Total Wages	Taxable Wages	Contributions
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,657</b>	<b>480,294</b>	<b>481,311</b>	<b>480,405</b>	<b>480,880</b>	<b>4,616,260,302</b>	<b>478,962,254</b>	<b>14,739,700</b>
<b>Private</b>	<b>33,968</b>	<b>414,486</b>	<b>414,791</b>	<b>414,117</b>	<b>414,465</b>	<b>3,849,879,522</b>	<b>477,595,761</b>	<b>14,692,956</b>
State	58	18,000	18,024	17,480	17,835	206,284,017	61,175	973
Local	441	38,300	38,408	38,568	38,425	416,548,215	1,305,318	45,771
Federal	190	10,138	10,088	10,240	10,155	143,548,548	0	0
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>66,438</b>	<b>66,520</b>	<b>66,288</b>	<b>66,415</b>	<b>766,380,780</b>	<b>1,366,493</b>	<b>46,744</b>
<b>Total UI Covered</b>	<b>34,467</b>	<b>470,156</b>	<b>471,223</b>	<b>470,165</b>	<b>470,725</b>	<b>4,472,711,754</b>	<b>478,962,254</b>	<b>14,739,700</b>

A Product of: [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information](#)

Employment changes may be influenced by non-economic code changes resulting from NAICS revisions and/or changes in employers' reporting methods.

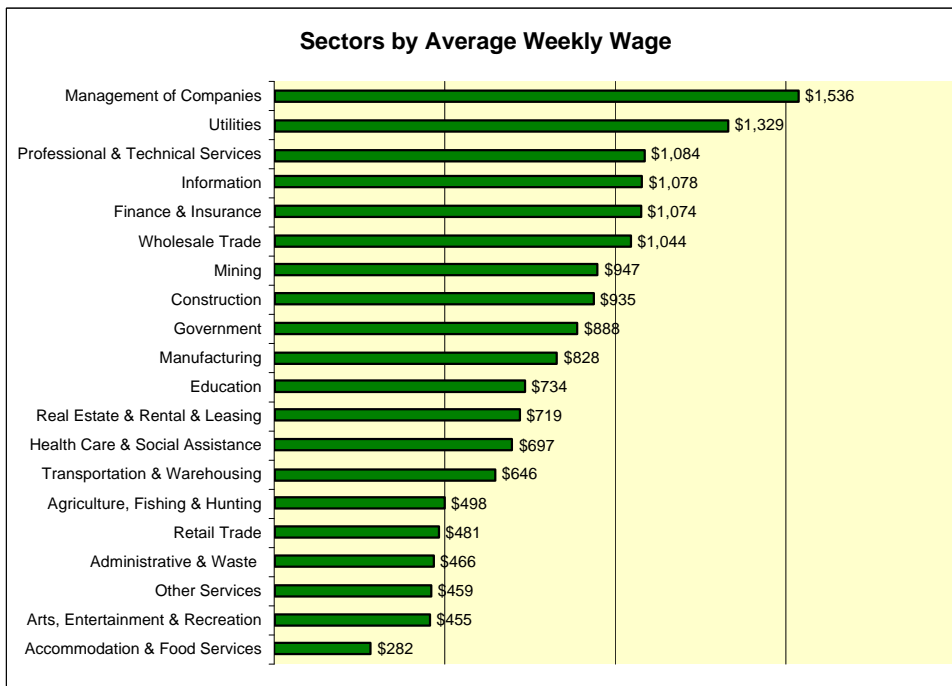
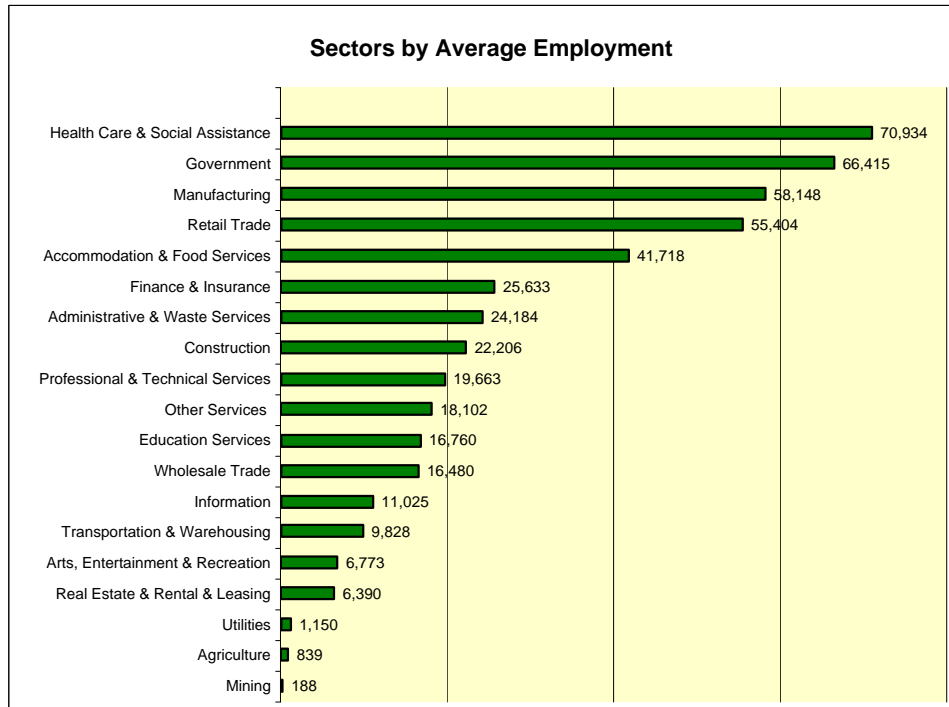
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